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GOOD EVENING :

ON SATURDAY NEXT THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA WILL DETERMINE ITS GOVERNMENT FOR THE ENSUING THREE YEARS. THIS IS A DECISION WHICH WILL BE VITAL TO THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR STATE.

WHEN I PRESENTED THE POLICY SPEECH OF THE GOVERNMENT ON THE 12TH FEBRUARY, I SET OUT IN DETAIL THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANS AND OBJECTIVES, AND THE MEANS BY WHICH THESE WILL BE ACHIEVED. THE OPPOSITION PARTY IN TURN PRESENTED AN INDEFINITE STATEMENT OF A VARIETY OF PROMISES. ALTHOUGH IT WOULD COST MANY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO PUT THESE INTO EFFECT, THE LEADER HAS NOT SEEN FIT TO SPELL OUT THE MEANS BY WHICH THESE COULD BE FINANCED, OTHER THAN TO SAY THAT IF ELECTED, HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD APPROACH THE COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT FOR SPECIAL GRANTS.

I SAY QUITE CLEARLY AND DEFINITELY THAT IF THE FUTURE

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DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA IS TO BE DEPENDANT ON THE GENEROSITY OF THE LIBERAL AND COUNTRY PARTY COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT, THEN THE STATE IS DOOMED TO SUBSIDE IN STAGNATION. THE STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER THAT IT WOULD BE EASIER FOR A STATE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT TO NEGOTIATE WITH A NATIONAL LIBERAL GOVERNMENT IS NOTHING BUT A MYTH WHICH HAS BEEN EXPLODED AND DENOUNCED ON MANY OCCASIONS BY LIBERAL PREMIERS IN OTHER STATES. NO-ONE HAS BEEN LOUDER IN HIS CONDEMNATION OF THE LACK OF APPRECIATION BY THE COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT OF THE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES OF THE STATES THAN THE LIBERAL PREMIER OF VICTORIA. THIS SHOWS CLEARLY HOW MUCH THE ELECTORS COULD RELY ON ASSISTANCE FROM THE COMMONWEALTH TO FINANCE AN EXTRAVAGANT ARRAY OF PROMISES FROM THE L.C.L. PARTY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

YOUR LABOR GOVERNMENT IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA HAS GIVEN TO THIS STATE AN UNPRECEDENTED PERIOD OF ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS. IN MANY FIELDS WE HAVE TAKEN THE STATE FROM A POSITION WHERE IT LAGGED BEHIND ALL OTHER STATES IN AUSTRALIA TO A POSITION WHERE IT NOT ONLY EQUALS THE SERVICES PROVIDED IN OTHER STATES BUT LEADS AUSTRALIA IN THEIR PROVISION. HEALTH AND HOSPITAL SERVICES ARE EXCELLENT EXAMPLES OF HOW SOUTH AUSTRALIA NOW LEADS THE NATION. PRIOR TO THE APPOINTMENT OF THE LABOR GOVERNMENT IN 1965, FOR MANY YEARS THE STATE SPENT LESS PER HEAD OF POPULATION THAN ANY OTHER STATE. YOUR LABOR GOVERNMENT NOW SPENDS ALMOST FIFTY CENTS PER HEAD OF POPULATION ABOVE THE AUSTRALIAN AVERAGE. WE HAVE IMPROVED OUR FACILITIES MARKEDLY DESPITE THE BACKLOG ARISING OVER THE PREVIOUS THIRTY YEARS PRIOR TO THE LABOR ADMINISTRATION.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IS VITAL TO THE WHOLE COMMUNITY.

PRIOR TO THE LABOR GOVERNMENT'S ELECTION, NO-ONE HAD THE DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY OF PROMOTING NEW INDUSTRY IN THE STATE. AS A CONSEQUENCE, WE BEGAN TO LAG BEHIND THE OTHER STATES WHO HAD ALL REALISED THE IMPORTANCE OF ATTRACTING NEW INDUSTRY AND WHO HAD SET UP AND EQUIPPED ORGANISATIONS TO ACT IN THIS COMPETITIVE FIELD. TO MEET THIS PRESSING NEED AND TO COPE WITH THE RESULTS OF THE FAILURE OF LIBERAL ADMINISTRATION TO ACT IN THIS IMPORTANT NECESSITY, THE LABOR GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED THE PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT IN 1965 AND CREATED THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BRANCH IN 1967 AND APPOINTED A DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTED BY AN INDUSTRIES ADVISORY COUNCIL. WE WERE NOT CONTENT WITH THAT. IN ORDER TO BRING SOUTH AUSTRALIA FROM LAST TO FIRST IN THE ABILITY TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION, WE HAVE ENGAGED CONSULTANTS OF WORLD RENOWN TO ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT IN ITS DETERMINED BID TO ATTRACT AND EXPAND INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY WITHIN THE STATE. THE INTERIM REPORT OF THE CONSULTANTS

RECEIVED THIS WEEK INDICATES THAT BRIGHT PROSPECTS ARE AHEAD WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S PLANNING AND ITS ACTION TO PROMOTE AN UNPRECEDENTED RATE OF GROWTH WITHIN THE STATE.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS RECOGNISED THE RIGHT OF PROPER FREEDOM FOR THE PEOPLE AND HAS SO ENABLED THEM TO EXERCISE IT THROUGH THE ENACTMENT OF SOCIAL LEGISLATION WHICH HAD LONG BEEN ENJOYED BY THE CITIZENS OF OTHER STATES BUT HAD BEEN SO LONG DENIED TO SOUTH AUSTRALIANS THROUGH L.C.L. DICTATION.

MANY AND VARIED ARE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF LABOR IN THE LAST THREE YEARS, BUT MUCH MORE REMAINS TO BE DONE TO ACHIEVE THE REFORMS AND DEVELOPMENT THAT LABOR DESIRES FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA. TO HALT THE PROGRESS OF THE LAST THREE YEARS WOULD BE DISASTROUS. IT IS ESSENTIAL TO THE WELFARE OF ALL THAT THE LABOR GOVERNMENT BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE TO BUILD ON ITS ACHIEVEMENTS

AND TO HAVE A MANDATE TO CARRY OUT THE POLICY I HAVE PRESENTED - A POLICY CLEARLY STATED, A POLICY CAPABLE OF ACHIEVEMENT, A POLICY OF CONTINUED PROGRESS. YOU SIMPLY CANNOT AFFORD TO HALT THE PROGRESS OF THE LAST THREE YEARS. ENSURE ITS CONTINUED GROWTH BY RETURNING YOUR LABOR GOVERNMENT.

GOOD NIGHT.